
Asset Manager's Report



Water/Wastewater

Wastewater

Urban Sewer Network

No major problems have been reported.

Wastewater Plant

No problems have been reported. Routine sampling and testing to monitor BOD5 and Nitrogen levels were carried out; the results are OK. The Compliance Monitoring Officer from ECan visited the plant and collected water samples on 16th of March.

Water Schemes

Water Testing

Following discussion with Steve Waller from the South Island Drinking Water Assessment Unit in Timaru, a new water sampling and testing calendar covering all the water schemes was developed.

Till the end of March the water samples were being tested at Citilab in Dunedin, with sample bottles sent to Dunedin each sampling day by courier. The bacteriological analysis has to be done within certain hours of sampling, and we have had problems previously with delays in transit. From April onwards, the testing is being done at Medlab in Timaru, where the field staff can directly deliver the samples by noon each sampling day without any dependence on the courier service, or with less courier difficulty in handover between courier companies.

Urban Water System

A monitoring report from ECan was received, pointing out the lack of compliance on some of the conditions of the Resource Consent issued for the filter backwash pond at the Timaru Road treatment plant. This issue is being addressed.

No major problems were reported on the urban water system.

Rural Water Schemes

Cannington-Motukaika

All water samples tested were fine. No major faults or anomalies reported.

Hook Waituna

All water samples tested were OK; no major problems in distribution were reported.

Lower Waihao

No major problems were reported during the month.

Otaio-Makikihi

The pump at the intake of the scheme had to be switched off during several days owing to pre-programmed power shut downs. The continuity of water supply was not affected, as the staff made sure that the reservoir was full just before each scheduled power shut-off.

No major problems were reported in the supply network or with the water quality.

Waihaorunga

No problems reported; all water samples tested were OK.

On 4th of April 2006 the Mayor and Councillors, accompanied by some members of staff, visited the Waihaorunga Creek intake during their one-day bus tour.

Waikakahi

All water samples were OK and no major problems were reported.

The MCC upgrade at the Stone Wall pump station is on schedule.

The proposal received from OPUS Consultants to provide technical support for the Waikakahi Augmentation Project to link the Dog Kennel Hill reservoir with the Lower Waihao intake is being reviewed.

A meeting with the representatives of the Waikakahi RWS Committee was held at the Local Government Centre on 4th of April. The meeting discussed the progress of the upgrades to the scheme, issues of tampering with flow restrictors and temporary increases of supply during winter months.

It is now understood that the proposed Waitaki Tunnel Project by Meridian Energy may have an adverse impact on the availability of water at the Stone Wall intake. This issue will be raised during the consultation process for the project.

Downlands

A meeting of the Downlands Water Supply Management Committee was held on 16 March 2006 at the Timaru District Council Office. Among the decisions was the proposal to hold a workshop for the Downlands Water Supply Management Committee to consider issues which may influence future and existing water supply sources for the scheme, and to develop a Strategic Plan for the scheme.

Roading

Work Completed

Culvert Installation

Mt Harris Road

Pavement Repairs

Makikihi Hunter Road, Hook Swamp Road

Minor Safety Projects

Sealing Intersections

SH No 1 with Carrolls, Cooneys and McNaughtons Roads
Pikes Point Road, Cock & Hen Road , Mt Harris Road Intersection

Realign intersection

Parker Street / Railway Terrace, Glenavy.

Seal Widening

Holme Station Road 800m (in progress)

Area Wide Pavement Treatment Granular Overlay

Pareora Gorge Road at Willows Bridge 230m
Fletchers Road 200m (in progress)

2005/06 Resealing Contract

Work in progress and should be completed by 14 April.

Work Programmed

Unsealed Roads

Metalling is programmed to be completed in the next 3 months

Minor Safety Projects

Uretane Rd, Widen blind brow
Planning Safety footpath for Parsonage Rd, Browns Rd and High St. including
widening 2 large culverts on Parsonage Rd.

Seal Widening

Gordons Valley Road (from Frenchmans Gully Road)

Area Wide Pavement Treatment Granular Overlay

Serpentine Valley Road (1.8km from SH 82) 290m
Haymans Road 290m

Transit New Zealand Draft 10 year State Highway Forecast

SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT 2006/07 – 2015-16 10-YEAR STATE HIGHWAY FORECAST

The following items follow the recent considerations by our Council, and are put forward in comment on the current plan.

Stock Effluent Disposal Facilities

The Waimate District Council supports the Pareora Stock Effluent Disposal site priority i.e. within a 3 year Plan.

Passing Lanes

The Waimate District Council supports the St Andrews North Passing Lanes. It has identified that passing lanes help to reduce driver frustration and contribute to road safety improvements. We Request consideration be given to Passing Lanes on

- SH 1, between SH 82 and SH 83 junction at Pukeuri north of Oamaru

Bridge Replacements

- SH 82 Waitaki Bridges- Kurow
- SH 82-Elephant Hill Bridge

One lane bridges are considered unacceptable on a state highway. The Waimate District Council regards these aging structures as top priority for replacement.

We would like to reiterate our perceived district priorities, and to see them moved into contention within a 10 year timeframe. They are

- The replacement of the Kurow Bridges across the Waitaki River, and
- The introduction of at least one location of passing lanes on SH 1, between the SH 82 and SH 83 junction

Waste

1 Resource Recovery Park Operational Statistics

Below is the comparative data for two x 9 month periods:

	<u>1 Jul 04 - 31 Mar 05</u>	<u>1 Jul 05 - 31 Mar 06</u>
Revenue	\$16,908	\$17,915
Total vehicles over period	2,445	3,790
Average vehicles per open day	15.67	24.29

i.e. income has increased 6% and vehicle traffic 55%

Much of this traffic increase would be due to additional trips to dispose of greenwaste and recyclables.

It is expected that if the free compostable greenwaste trial continues, it will impact negatively on RRP revenue.

2 Free Compostable Greenwaste Trial Update

The trial is now entering its third month with no major problems evident. However the increased traffic at the RRP is a challenge for staff at times.

Data for February and March 2006 is as follows:

	<u>Feb/Mar 05</u>	<u>Feb/Mar 06</u>	
Kerbside Refuse Collection Tonnes to L/fill	282.57	238.47	-18.49%
Total Tonnes to Landfill	427.36	339.04	-26.05%
This results in Savings of	\$4,317.87		
			Revenue Lost
Number of paying Greenwaste-Trailers	257	36	(\$2,946.67)
Number of paying Greenwaste- Cars	125	77	<u>(\$ 170.67)</u>
Total Revenue Lost			<u>(\$3,117.34)</u>
Net Savings for first two months of trial	= Savings less Revenue Lost		
	= \$4,317.87 less \$3117.34		
	= <u>\$1,200.53</u> (ex GST)		

The above data indicates the positive trend is continuing. It must be remembered that this is unlikely to lead to overall savings in the short term as there will be additional costs in handling and processing the increased greenwaste volumes e.g. more frequent shredding. The last greenwaste shredding / transport cycle in Dec 2005 cost \$7,500.

However, if this free greenwaste initiative is continued into the medium term (one-two years), it may influence some ratepayers to hand in wheelie bins at the end of the financial year to achieve cost savings to them. Some preliminary enquires have already been received.

This would ensure those households fully utilise the available refuse / recycle services available because of the loss of refuse collecting capacity. At present households with wheelie bins may not feel sufficiently encouraged to recycle. Informal small scale surveys suggest about 60% of households use the kerbside recycling collection regularly.

These outcomes would result in savings to ratepayers and Council and at the same time achieve the following environmental benefits :

- Diversion of compostable greenwaste from landfill, showing progress towards NZ Waste Strategy and Council's Zero Waste goals.

- Lessen landfilled greenwaste reducing leachate and methane - an important greenhouse gas.
- Signal that Waimate is attempting to minimise greenwaste to landfill, at a time when Timaru is introducing their comprehensive recycling scheme.
- Diversion and recovery of additional recyclables that may be currently going to landfill through the kerbside wheelie bin collection.

General

Staff Training

S Unni attended a one-day training programme put on under the auspices of Ingenium, on Risk Management, held at Dunedin. This will prove helpful in addressing the Public Health Risk Management Plans now required under the new Drinking Water Standards 2005.

LAPP Insurance Meeting

G Hamilton attended a meeting of the 49 Local Authorities held in Wellington on 5th April 2006. The meeting was the first held in 8 years, and was to discuss the level of insurance cover and investment needed to protect this mutual fund in the event of Tsunami/Earthquake/Flood damage to underground assets

Road Funding Workshop

G Hamilton and Cllr J Gibson will attend this meeting in Wellington on 10th April 2006. This is a collaborative meeting for Local Authorities organized in part by Southland DC.

G Hamilton
Asset Manager

7th April 2006